



**Minutes**  
**January 17, 2013**  
**5:30pm – 7:00pm**  
**Whittemore Robbins House**

- I. Welcome and Introductions:** (16) Carlene Newell, Laura Juitt, Adam Chapdelaine, Joe Curro, Cindy Starks, Mary DeCoursey, Kathy Hirsch, Cindy Starks, Cindy Sheridan Curran, Ethyl Doyle, Ned Walsh, Rebecca Wolfe, Mary DeCoursey, Jack Flood, Lynn Horgan, Colleen Leger

**II. Short Term Action Team (STAT) Updates:**

**Diversity Planning:** (Joe C., Ethel D., Lynn H., Colleen L., Emily B.)

This STAT developed out of the November Cultural Competency training, and consisted of two facilitated planning meetings to create an Outreach Plan for the Coalition. Colleen passed out a draft of this plan and asked for members to review and comment. Feedback was provided in the following areas:

*\*Outreach Goals*- members suggested combining certain individual goals (of the 10 listed) into broader outreach goals such as: “We will find and engage underrepresented groups with diverging views.”

*\*One on Ones*- Lynn introduced members to the idea of conducting informal “one on one” conversations with community members as a way of gaining insight into individual (and shared) perspectives on youth health and safety in Arlington. This community organizing method was suggested by Emily Bhargava as a way of establishing relationships through conversation and sharing of ideas. Members were provided a one-page sheet containing guidance on “One on Ones” as well as an outline for recording information gleaned from the conversations. **Colleen asked Coalition members to conduct at least 1 “one on one” conversation with a community member this month, and to share their impressions at the next meeting.**

*\*Groups to talk to about the Coalition*- Members reviewed the list of sixteen groups generated in the outreach plan and made edits as necessary, including removing certain groups and adding several others (e.g. Arlington Boys & Girls Club and Fire Department). Members discussed content for these group presentations, ways to meet groups where they are, and opportunities to bring groups together. Suggestions included, outreach to clinicians affiliated with new APS emotional wellness grant, and hosting a gathering for health care providers/AFD/First Responders to provide information about the Coalition and discuss prevention strategies. Joe suggested strengthening communication with local liquor license holders, as well as new establishments seeking liquor licenses. This could include an educational handout, information on compliance checks and gratitude for efforts to card individuals under 21. Kathy suggested an event that brings people together and offers a fundraising opportunity.

*\*Send out volunteer opportunities regularly through the coalition email list*- Colleen provided a printout of the recently updated AYHSC webpage. Updates included an additional link for archived AYHSC newsletters, as well as a “sign up” link for community members to receive future AYHSC newsletters. One member suggested adding a “support AYHSC” button/link for donations.

*\*Develop updated outreach materials*- The AYHSC brochure is currently being updated. The new, draft version includes information on who we are, local stats, funding streams, accomplishments to date, testimonials, opportunities to become involved, and the benefits of membership.

*\*Meeting Schedule*- Consider rotating the monthly meeting time/location to be more inclusive of people with competing responsibilities/engagements.

## II. STAT Updates (continued):

**Navigating the Teen Years (NTTY):** (Kathy H., Karen D., Cindy S., Carlene N., Pam W.F., Lynn H., Colleen L.) Lynn updated members on plans to revise the content of the NTTY “quiz” so that it is applicable to the high school population. Recently, STAT members met to provide suggestions for both the “Quiz” and “Tough Questions” components of the program. Lynn shared with the group a sampling of “Quiz” questions, and obtained additional feedback. Examples: include questions about marijuana, social norms, binge drinking and driving under the influence. Members also shared ideas about ways to convey data from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) and education on the new Medical Marijuana Law to the Arlington community. Continued outreach and education to PTOs, OPAC and other school/parent groups was recommended.

**Parent Survey:** (Cindy S., Ethel D., Colleen L. Reviewers: Pam W.F., Karen D., Kathy H., Emily B.) This survey contains roughly 45 questions, and will be ready in ~2 weeks via Survey Monkey. The survey asks a variety of questions related to perception of harm, understanding of consequences and knowledge of child’s use. The survey will also inquire about parent support for enforcement efforts and a possible underage internal possession (underage intoxication) bylaw. Information from this survey will hopefully assist AYHSC in developing more targeted and supportive parent programming, including a parent social norms campaign.

**Outreach to Athletic Organizations:** (Members are needed for this new STAT. The project will conclude in mid-February) This goal of this STAT is to meet with leaders/coaches of youth sports organizations to provide information about AYHSC and youth substance use, and to address permit guidelines and concerns about public drinking at youth athletic events. Colleen invited Coalition members to consider other opportunities for outreach/partnering with this group. Cindy and Carlene suggested sending information to coaches about the Chris Herren presentations at the Ottoson and AHS, and inviting them to speak to their players on this topic. Colleen invited Coalition members to attend one of the Herren presentations on 1/23/13. (Chris Herren is a former Celtics player currently in recovery from years of substance abuse)

**DFC Grant Application:** We are looking for volunteers to work on this STAT. The request for proposals (RFP) should be released by the end of January, and the deadline to apply will be in March.

## III. Other Updates

**Newsletter:** Plans for the distribution of a winter Newsletter are underway.

**Community Presentations:** *Sophomore Parent Night-* Colleen and John spoke to roughly 175 parents at this AHS event. Their presentations included data from the local YRBS, risk factors associated with youth substance use, prevention strategies and Coalition initiatives, and information on social host law, the decriminalization of marijuana, and the recent legalization of medical marijuana. Colleen informed the group that she also would be presenting to parents at the OPAC breakfast on Friday, 1/18/13.

**Marijuana Dispensary Regulations:** Colleen and Adam informed the group that the Town is looking at various types of regulations related to medical marijuana dispensaries. While some towns have outzoned dispensaries altogether, this is not the approach Arlington will take. Rather, the Town is considering zoning and BOH regulations that will honor the will of the voters, while minimizing the negative impact on youth, and other potential abuses of the system.

#### IV. Other Upcoming Trainings & Events

Jan 18, 2013	OPAC Breakfast	OMS- 9:00	AYHSC presentation
Jan. 23, 2013	Chris Herren	AHS- 10:00 OMS- 12:30	Student Assemblies Coalition members welcome to attend
Feb. 2, 2013	Teenage Addiction & the Brain: Just the Facts	Shrewsbury 9:00am- 4:00pm	Training- <a href="http://www.cvent.com/events/bsas-120-teenage-addiction-the-brain-just-the-facts-/event-summary-6cd4dc88cb294a82bff033957f3a42d0.aspx">http://www.cvent.com/events/bsas-120-teenage-addiction-the-brain-just-the-facts-/event-summary-6cd4dc88cb294a82bff033957f3a42d0.aspx</a>

#### V. Meeting Adjournment

The next Coalition Meeting was scheduled for Thursday, February 14, 2013. However, since this meeting falls on Valentine's Day, we may try to reschedule. Colleen will send out a Doodle with alternative meeting options.